

41

1623

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/051,201 Confirmation No. 7237  
Applicant(s) : Linus G. FONKWE, et al.  
Filed : January 18, 2002  
Art Unit : 1623  
Examiner : Krishnan, Ganapathy  
Docket No. : 4700-083 (04700.0467.4)

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the non-final Office Action of December 17, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (currently amended) A film-forming composition comprising:

- a) iota carrageenan in an amount of from about 1% to about 15% by weight of the composition;
- b) kappa carrageenan in an amount less than 100% by weight of the iota carrageenan;
- c) a bulking agent, wherein the bulking agent is a modified starch and the ratio of bulking agent to the combined total of iota and kappa carrageenan is from about 1:1 to about 20:1;